

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District 2005 EQIP Environmental Ranking Criteria

Points can only be earned when there is an environmental concern to be addressed. If the applicant is already doing the conservation practice that eliminates an environmental concern, then points will not be assigned. Points will be awarded as written on the worksheet and not arbitrarily reduced.

NAME			
ADDRESS			
FSN		TRACT	

1. _____ Improve water quality by excluding livestock from a water body / open sink hole. **10 points**
2. _____ Improve water quality by establishing a buffer area between a water body / open sinkhole and cropland, pastureland, or feedlot. **20 points**
3. _____ Develop alternate sources of drinking water for livestock in order to reduce excessive erosion or animal waste related problems to improve surface water quality. **50 points**
4. _____ Expand existing water system to improve grazing distribution. **20 points**
5. _____ Reduce compaction, improve regeneration, and develop proper stand population on the forest landscape by excluding livestock. **20 points for eliminating livestock access to woodland**
6. _____ Convert grazing land which is too steep to be properly managed to woodland by excluding livestock. (Natural regeneration is preferred and creates early successional habitat) **5 points**
7. _____ Improve soil quality, reduce erosion, improve animal health by developing and implementing a prescribed grazing plan. If nutrients will be applied a Nutrient Management Plan will be developed based on a current soil test. **If brush management is needed, the practice will require a commercial licensed applicator and an operation and maintenance agreement.** Farmer must be given management worksheet so they understand the requirements of this practice.
 - 9 days or more grazing cycle = 2 points**
 - Less than 9 days grazing cycle = 10 points**
8. _____ Utilize extended grazing to reduce feeding periods (after November 15), as part of a prescribed grazing plan. (Minimum height of grass to be maintained per 528A standard)
 - 1 month extended grazing = **2 points**
 - 2 month extended grazing = **10 points**
 - 3 month extended grazing = **20 points**
9. _____ Improve water quality and provide for better utilization of animal waste nutrients by relocating an established concentrated winter feeding area (Standard Code 757 Animal Use Area Protection Area). Adequate filter area will be required as outlined by the standard. **An animal waste storage structure may also be required as dictated by the site. 5 points**

_____ **SUBTOTAL**

10. _____ Increase forage quality and quantity with a pasture planting on a minimum of 10% of the contract pasture acres. Cost-share will be provided for seed, labor and equipment. (Warm season grass plantings are encouraged).

5 points

11. _____ Divert overland flow or overhead flow of clean water from existing permanent livestock feeding areas, i.e. diversions or gutters. **2 points**

_____ **SUBTOTAL POINTS OF PAGE 1**

_____ **SUBTOTAL POINTS OF PAGE 2**

_____ **TOTAL POINTS (167 max.)**

*** There is not a point threshold. If funds are available all contracts will be funded.**